

REMARKS

Claims 27, 29 – 46 and 49 are pending in this application. Claim 27 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 28 and claim 28 has been deleted. Claim 34 was amended to change its dependency to claim 27. No new matter has been added. Two copies of the drawing figures are submitted herewith. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 27, 29, 37, 40, 44, 45 and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nyce (U.S. 4,187,608). Claims 33 – 36, 42, 43 and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nyce '608. Claims 33 – 36, 42, 43 and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nyce '608 in view of Oden (U.S. 5,342,201). Claims 38 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nyce '608 in view of Horiuchi et al (U.S. 5,718,749). For the reasons set forth below, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 27 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 28, an allowable claim. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 27, 29 – 46 and 49 specify patentable subject matter and are now in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application. The Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' attorney at the number listed below if it will advance the prosecution of this case. If necessary, the Examiner is authorized to charge further fees necessary to advance the prosecution in this case from Deposit Account No. 500718.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ann M. Knab
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 33,331
Customer Number 34, 214

Pentron Corporation
53 North Plains Industrial Road
Wallingford, CT 06492

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